

# The Council on Foreign Relations

## Right Arm of the Secret Government?

*With the CFR's  
history of  
obsessive secrecy,  
dubious  
connections and  
questionable  
policies, is it any  
wonder that  
'patriot' groups  
are paranoid about  
the 'New World  
Order'?*

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**L**ong before the catastrophic bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah federal building in Oklahoma City, USA, on 19th April 1995, and its attendant frenzy over "militia" groups, one fact was evident. President Bill Clinton and many of his associates—along with some of the most prominent media personalities in the world—had one thing in common: membership in the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR).

Clinton is joined as a CFR member by Secretary of State Warren Christopher; the Pentagon's former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Colin Powell; and financier David Rockefeller.

The brightest and richest media celebrities also dot the CFR roster:

- Roone Arledge of ABC, architect of many Olympic telecasts as former executive producer of ABC Sports.
- Diane Sawyer, the former *60 Minutes* reporter who jumped ship from CBS to ABC, buoyed by a US\$6 million-per-year contract drafted by Mr Arledge.
- Dan Rather, long-time anchor for CBS News.
- Robert L. MacNeil and Jim Lehrer, whose acclaimed *MacNeil-Lehrer News Hour* has long been a PBS fixture.
- Tom Brokaw, NBC News anchor.
- David Brinkley, long-time NBC News commentator and host of his own Sunday news program.
- Katharine Graham, publisher of *The Washington Post*.

CFR involvement in media reaches to the highest levels of academia as well. At the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) conventions the last two years in Atlanta, GA, and Washington, D.C. respectively, CFR member Everette E. Dennis has chaired and monitored several crucial panels and discussion groups. Dennis heads the Freedom Forum's Media Studies Center in New York. The Freedom Forum is the 'charitable' arm of Gannett Corp. which publishes the controversial national newspaper, *USA Today*.

Esteemed statesmen and women have long been CFR members. Dr Henry Kissinger, the breakthrough Secretary of State for the Nixon administration in the late 1960s and '70s, and former United States delegate to the United Nations, Jeane Kirkpatrick, are listed as key CFR players. This is not to mention the current US representative to the UN, Madeleine Albright, whose arrogant push for a women's conference in China this year has resulted in turmoil between many women of the world and the Chinese government.

It appears, then, that membership in the Council on Foreign Relations can definitely enhance one's career, whether it be in academia, politics, high finance or media.

However, most people do not even know the CFR exists. Even fewer know about the organisation's secretive policies and dubious history. It might be a good idea for every American to own a copy of the CFR's latest annual report, which contains within it many contradictions and much misleading information about the CFR's actual role in formulating American and international foreign policies.

For example, at the 1994 overpopulation conference in Cairo, Egypt, leader of the US delegation was CFR member and Deputy Secretary of State Timothy E. Wirth, whose group championed the near-militant pro-abortion population-control program backed by the Clinton administration and heatedly challenged by the Vatican. Population control has long been a CFR priority, and a pet project of the Rockefeller family. Many pro-choice groups in the US are heavily backed by the Rockefellers—who also control the CFR—and this fact was trumpeted over National Public Radio (NPR) by the few women at the conference who did not back the US-led abortion coalition.

These same frictions repeated themselves this year during the women's conference in China, only this time, militant CFR-coached women from all around the world descended on China and angered the Chinese authorities to no end. Like any government, the Chinese resent any outside organisation, such as the US government and the CFR, dictating terms to it in any form—whether the forum be women's rights, abuse in Chinese prisons as revealed by activist Henry Wu, or other internal Chinese matters. It seems to make little difference, however, to the hard-headed elites of the CFR.

On page 4 of the CFR's 1993 Annual Report, the following statement is made: *"The Council on Foreign Relation has no affiliation with the US government..."*

A more accurate rendering of that statement would be "...no 'official' affiliation with the US government", because almost all of President Clinton's recent and current cabinet members are also listed as CFR members. Commerce Secretary Ron Brown, presently under investigation for alleged wrongdoing; Whitewater victim Robert Altman, the Treasury Secretary who recently resigned; the aforementioned Secretary of State Christopher; recently resigned temporary White House counsel Lloyd Cutler; former Secretary of Defense candidate Bobby Ray Inman; recently appointed Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg; and the late Les Aspin, a Secretary of Defense who also resigned in disgrace, are all CFR members.

To say, then, that the CFR "has no affiliation with the US government" is stretching the truth.

Another interesting statement is made on page 4: *"The Council takes no institutional position on issues of foreign policy..."*

Yet, on page 47, a description of the CFR's so-called "Studies Program" carries the following note: *"Studies activities strive to identify US global interests, analyze the factors that will affect them, and propose a wide range of realistic American policy options to address them."* [Author's emphasis added.]

Well, which is it? Do we believe page 4 or page 47?

Diversity is not a CFR priority. Only 20 minority women are among the CFR's 3,000 members, but, curiously, many minority women appear in photos in the CFR's annual report! The deception is clear. Only roughly 10 per cent of CFR membership is composed of people of colour. Clearly, the membership and agenda of the CFR is Anglo. Plus, only US citizens are allowed to join, and they can only do so by being recommended by a present CFR member and exposed to a rigorous initiation process. The CFR is an insiders' group all the way.

The most glaring policy held by the CFR, however, is its obsession with secrecy. Most CFR activities take the form of meetings in which foreign diplomats can freely express their ideas to CFR members, with the understanding that all commentary will be withheld from the public and press. Page 140 reads:

*"...Participants are assured that they may speak openly, as it is the tradition of the Council that others will not attribute or characterize their statements in public media or forums or knowingly*

*transmit them to persons who will."* [Author's emphasis added.]

Violation of this "tradition" could mean immediate expulsion from the Council, according to Article II of CFR by-laws. It also means that members of the media in the CFR are forced to muzzle themselves, or face dismissal from the group.

Major summits of international importance are staged in secret. For example, according to CFR documents, the Middle East/North Africa Economic Summit was held in Casablanca on 30 Oct. to 1 Nov. 1994. The event was co-chaired by President Clinton and Russian President Boris Yeltsin. The CFR document went on to state:

*"At the start of a new era in the Middle East and North Africa, high-ranking statesmen, international business leaders and regional experts will convene to explore the region's economic and investment opportunities and risks, thereby providing a unique forum to share knowledge and experiences."*

Not a word of this conference was mentioned in the mainstream press. If indeed Clinton and Yeltsin attended, they did so in complete secrecy. Curiously, soon after that "summit", things began to unravel in Rwanda and Burundi and massive slaughters began. Maybe these CFR gatherings ought to be more productive.

These and other questionable policies of the CFR also tend to camouflage a truly monstrous history, loaded with unexplained cosy affiliations with some of the most despotic ruling elites of the 20th century including Adolf Hitler and Josef Stalin.

The CFR was founded in the early part of this century. Page 4 of the 1993 Annual Report gives us the official reasoning:

*"The Council was founded in 1921 shortly after the end of World War I. Several of the American participants in the Paris Peace Conference decided that it was time for more private American citizens to become familiar with the increasing international responsibilities and obligations of the United States. They concluded that there was a need for an organisation able to provide for the continuous study of US foreign poli-*

*cy for the benefit of its members and a wider audience of interested Americans. These original aims remain central to the mission of the Council on Foreign Relations."* [Author's emphasis added.]

Sounds reasonable. But some analysts do not share that view. Now-deceased author Gary Allen in his landmark work, *None Dare Call It Conspiracy* (Concord Press, 1971), offered the following blunt assessment:

*"The admitted goal of the CFR is to abolish the Constitution and replace our once-independent Republic with a World Government."*

Allen and other analysts suggest the CFR's efforts led to the formation of what is now known as the United Nations. Some CFR members in 1945—the year the UN was founded in San Francisco—included such nice guys as suspected pro-Soviet conspirator Owen Lattimore, convicted Communist spy Alger Hiss, and exposed Communist agent Harry Dexter White.

Some former CFR members have broken ranks and exposed the group's intentions. One of them is US Navy Rear Admiral Chester

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Ward, who revealed to author Ralph Epperson in his book, *The Unseen Hand*, that:

*"...the most powerful clique in these leftist groups [including the CFR] have one objective in common: they want to bring about the surrender of the sovereignty and the national independence of the United States... A second clique of international members of the CFR...comprises the Wall Street international bankers and key agents."*

Since the UN's formation, it appears the CFR is prophetically making just such headway in establishing itself as a de facto world-governing body in conjunction with many international heads of state. Current CFR Chairman Peter G. Peterson boasts on Page 6 of the *1993 Annual Report*:

*"...Nineteen ninety-two showed just how successful the Council has been... Its members lent their talents to each of the major national presidential candidates. A Council member was elected President of the United States. Our former Vice Chairman, Warren Christopher, returned to Washington as Secretary of State. Dozens of other Council colleagues were called to serve on cabinet and subcabinet positions..."*

In another example of the CFR's deep involvement in US foreign and military policy, it has been disclosed that 40 CFR members were transported by CH-53 *Sea Stallion* helicopters to the Twenty-Nine Palms Marine Corps military installation in Southern California in March of 1994. The entire episode was routinely reported in the base newspaper by Cpl. M. T. Mink, whose story—a copy of which has been faxed to militia and 'patriot' groups—stated that the CFR delegation was granted a tour of the highly classified 1st Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Co. (1st UAV).

*"The [CFR] visit was an excellent opportunity to display the training conducted aboard the Combat Center as well as the capabilities of the operating forces stationed here,"* bragged Brig. Gen. Russell H. Sutton, as quoted by Cpl. Mink. Why would the ultra-secretive CFR want to know these sensitive details about US military preparedness?

Curiously, two months later, a survey was given to Marines at Twenty-Nine Palms and ancillary units who served in Operations *Just Cause*, *Desert Storm* (Persian Gulf War) and *Restore Hope*. The troops could answer the survey's statements with "strongly disagree", "disagree", "agree", "strongly agree", or "no opinion". A copy of the survey was leaked by a concerned Marine to the John Birch Society. A group of military Special Forces commandos, known only as "The Resisters", has also garnered a copy of this survey and confirmed that it was not only given to these Marines but to Navy Seals as well. The Resisters maintain that the survey was presented to a wide variety of US troops to get their reactions to the stunning statement/questions, which included the following:

*"36. US combat troops should be commanded by UN officers and non-commissioned officers (NCOs) at battalion and company levels while performing US missions."*

*"39. I feel the President of the United States has the authority to pass his responsibilities as Commander-in-Chief to the UN Secretary General."*

*"46. The US government declares a ban on the possession, sale, transportation and transfer of all non-sporting firearms. A thirty (30)-day amnesty period is permitted for these firearms to be turned over to the local authorities. At the end of this period, a number of citizen groups refuse to turn over their firearms. Consider the following statement: I would fire upon US citizens who refuse or resist confiscation of firearms banned by the US Government." [Author's emphasis added.]*

This is interesting, especially in the light of the highly controversial federal crime bill of late 1994 that included a ban of so-

called "assault weapons", which matches the above statement's description of "non-sporting firearms".

By the way, the gentleman behind the recent sudden steep rises in interest rates that sledgehammered the US economy in late 1994 and early 1995—Alan Greenspan, head of the Federal Reserve Bank—is also a CFR member. So is Paul Volcker who also ran the Fed at one time. Everywhere, CFR members, for better or worse, appear to be the huge decision-makers. Even the US Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala—who, only two days before the Oklahoma City bombing, described Vietnam veterans as not being among the "best and the brightest" that America could have sent into that conflagration—is a dues-paying member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

**...CFR membership has become a virtual requirement on most corporate or government résumés. The CEOs of Exxon, Texaco, Atlantic-Richfield (ARCO), Shell, Mobil and Tenneco are CFR members, as are the directors of John Deere & Co., AT&T, Chrysler Corp., General Motors, Ford Motor Co. and American Express.**

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Should such financial and governmental power be monopolised in a single organisation? And who backs the CFR? Global conglomerates—such as the Coca-Cola Co., whose President and CEO Roberto Goizueta is a CFR member—top the list, along with the aforementioned oil companies and industrial giants of the capitalist West.

And if you work for a major university in the US, your pension contributions help sponsor the CFR. The nationally interlocked TIAA-CREF retirement fund is listed as a 1993 Corporate Member of the CFR.

Welcome to the club.

And if you are a member of the so-called "citizens' militia" groups sprouting across the country in the wake of the Branch Davidian massacre in Waco in 1993—and the more recent and far more destructive and disturbing Oklahoma City bombing—your paranoia over "one-world government" might not be so far-fetched after all.

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